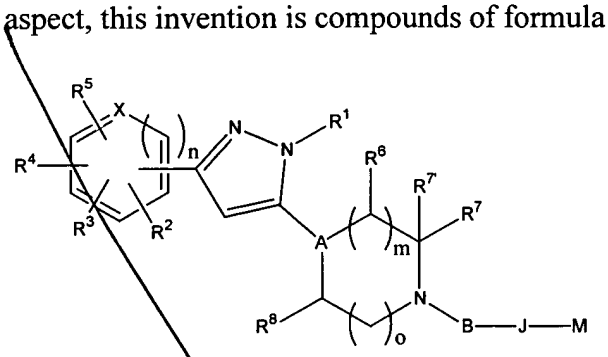
AMENDMENTS

In the Specification:

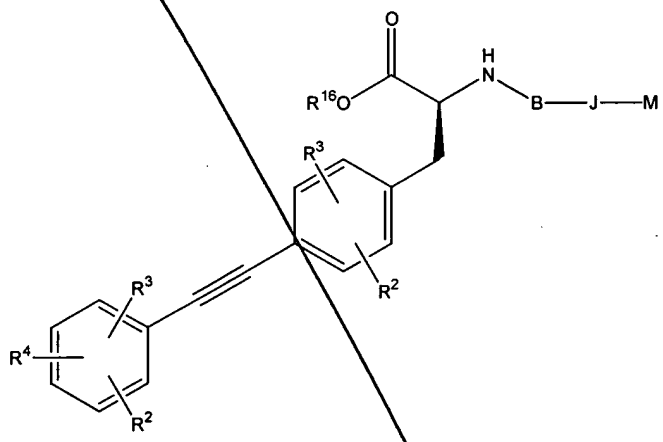
Amend the paragraphs commencing on Page 3, line 1, through page 5, line 25, as follows:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In a first aspect, this invention is compounds of formula I or formula I'



I



I'

where:

m is an integer selected from 0, 1, and 2;

n and o are integers independently selected from 0 and 1;

A is selected from the group consisting of N and CH;

B is selected from the group consisting of $-CH_2-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-CH_2-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-CH_2-NH-$, $-CH_2-O-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-S-CH_2-$, $-C(=O)-NH-$, $-C(=O)-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-C(=O)-NH-$, $-C(=O)-CH_2-C(=O)-$, $-C(=O)-NH-CH_2-$, $-C(=O)-$, $-S(=O)-$, $-S(=O)_2-$, $-S(=O)-NH-$, $-S(=O)_2-NH-$, $-S(=O)-CH_2-$, $-S(=O)_2CH_2-$, $-S(=O)-CH_2-NH-$, $-S(=O)_2-CH_2-NH-$, $-S(=O)_2-NH-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-S(=O)_2-NH-$, $-C(=O)-NH-S(=O)_2-$, $-S(=O)_2-NH-C(=O)-$,

-C(=O)-CH_2-S(=O)$_2$-, and –S(=O)$_2$-CH_2-C(=O)-;

J is absent or selected from the group consisting of –O-, -S-, -CHR^{15}-O-, -CH_2-CHR^{15}-O-, -NH-, -NH-CHR^{15}-, -NH-CHR^{15}-C(=O)-, -C(=O)-, -CH_2-, -CHR^{15}-CH_2-NH-, -C(=O)-CHR^{15}-, -NH-C(=O)-CH(C_1-C_6alkyl)-, -NH-C(=O)-CH(C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl)-, -CH_2-CH_2-, -CH_2NH-, -CH_2-NH-C(=O)-, -CH_2-NH-C(=O)-C_1-C_6alkyl-, -CH_2-NH-C(=O)-CH(C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl)- and –C(=O)-CHR^{15}-NH-;

L is selected from the group consisting of –O-, –CH_2-O-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH_2-O-, -O-CH_2-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-CH_2-, -C(=O)-NH-, -O-C(=O)-NH-, -CH_2-C(=O)-NH-, -C(=O)-CH_2-NH-, -C(=O)-NH-CH_2-, -NH-C(=O)-, NH-C(=O)-O-, -NH-CH_2-C(=O)-, -NH-C(=O)-CH_2-, -CH_2-NH-C(=O)-, -NH-C(=O)-NH-, -NH-S(=O)$_2$-NH-, -NH-S(=O)$_2$-, -NH-S(=O)$_2$-CH_2-, -CH_2-NH-S(=O)$_2$-, -S(=O)$_2$-NH-, -S(=O)$_2$-NH-CH_2-, -CH_2-S(=O)$_2$-NH-, -C(=O)-NH-S(=O)$_2$-, -S(=O)$_2$-NH-C(=O)-, -CH_2-NH-, -CH_2-CH_2-NH-, -NH-CH_2-, -NH-CH_2-CH_2-, -CH_2-NH-CH_2-, -C≡C-, -CH_2-C≡C-, -CH_2-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH_2-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, CH=CH-CH_2-, and –CH=CH-;

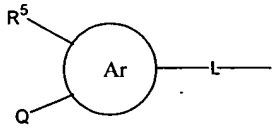
M is selected from the group consisting of R^9 and an optionally substituted group selected from phenyl, naphthyl, C_3-C_7-cycloalkyl, and heterocyclyl, the heterocyclyl group being aliphatic, partially unsaturated, or aromatic, and containing 1 or 2 rings each containing 5-7 ring atoms of which 0-3 are hetero atoms selected from N, O and S, provided that at least one ring contains a heteroatom and where any ring carbon or sulfur may optionally be oxidized, the optional substituents being up to three groups selected from R^1, R^2 and R^9;

Q is selected from the group consisting of –C(=O)OR^{16}, -C(=O)-NH-C(=O)-CF_3, -C(=O)-NH-S(=O)$_2$-R^2, -C(=O)-NR^1-OH, 5-oxo-4,5-dihydro[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-yl, and tetrazolyl;

X is A when n is 1, and is CH, N, O or S when n is 0;

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, (C_1-C_6)alkyl, halo-(C_1-C_6)alkyl, and (C_3-C_6)cycloalkyl;

R^2, R^3 and R^5 are individually selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, cyano, nitro, phenyl, phenoxy, benzyl, C_1-C_6alkyl, halo, halo-C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_6cycloalkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, hydroxy, C_1-C_2alkoxy-methoxy, hydroxy-C_1-C_6alkyl, formyl, C_1-C_6alkylcarbonyl, amino, C_1-C_6alkylamino, aminocarbonyl, C_1-C_6alkylaminocarbonyl, formylamino, and C_1-C_6alkylcarbonylamino, where any alkyl or phenyl may optionally substituted with halo or Q;

R^4 is selected from the group consisting of R^2 and 

where Ar is a homo- or hetero-aryl group having 1 or 2 rings, each ring containing 5, 6 or 7 ring atoms of which 1-3 may be heteroatoms selected from N, O and S;

R^6 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, halo, halo-C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_6cycloalkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, C_1-C_6alkoxy-C_1-C_6alkyl, hydroxy, hydroxy-C_1-C_6alkyl, HC(=O)-C_1-C_6alkyl, carboxy, carboxy-C_1-C_6alkyl, carbonylamino-C_1-C_6alkyl, aminocarbonyl, (C_1-C_6alkyl)aminocarbonyl, di(C_1-C_6alkyl)aminocarbonyl, and aminocarbonyl-C_1-C_6alkyl; [or]

R^7 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, halo, halo-C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_6cycloalkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, C_1-C_6alkoxy-C_1-C_6alkyl, hydroxy, hydroxy-C_1-C_6alkyl, HC(=O)-C_1-C_6alkyl, carboxy, carboxy-C_1-C_6alkyl, carbonylamino-C_1-C_6alkyl, aminocarbonyl, (C_1-C_6alkyl)aminocarbonyl, di(C_1-C_6alkyl)aminocarbonyl, and aminocarbonyl-C_1-C_6alkyl;

$R^{7'}$ is hydrogren; or

R^7 and $R^{7'}$ together with the carbon to which they are bonded form –C(=O)-;

R^8 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, C_1-C_6alkoxy, C_1-C_6alkyl, halo, halo-C_1-C_6alkyl, and C_3-C_6cycloalkyl;

R^9 is selected from the group consisting of $-NR^{10}R^{11}$, $-C(=NR^{12})-NHR^{13}$, $-N=CR^{14}-NR^{10}R^{11}$, $-NR^{13}-CR^{14}=NR^{12}$, and $-NR^{13}-C(=NR^{12})-NHR^{13}$;

R^{10}, R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{13} and R^{14} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, hydroxy-C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6alkyl, halo-C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, C_1-C_6alkoxy-C_1-C_6alkyl, and C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl; or any member of the group R^{10}, R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{13}, and R^{14} together with the nitrogen to which it is attached forms a 5, 6 or 7 member heterocycle with any other member of the group, the heterocycle optionally containing one additional heteroatom selected from N, O and S;

R^{15} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_3-C_7cycloalkyl, aminocarbonyl, C_1-C_6alkylaminocarbonyl, and di(C_1-C_6alkyl)aminocarbonyl; and

R^{16} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_{13}cycloalkyl, C_6-C_{10}aryl, acetylamino-C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_1-C_6alkylcarbonyloxy-C_1-C_6alkyl, and C_6-C_{10}aryl-C_0-C_6alkylcarbonyloxy-C_1-C_6alkyl,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

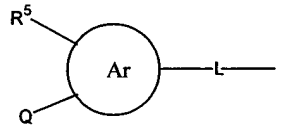
provided that the compound is not N-[2-[1-(aminoiminomethyl)-3-piperidinyl]-1-oxoethyl]-4-phenylethynyl-phenylalanine methyl ester or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Amend the paragraphs commencing on Page 9, line 8, through page 10, line 4, as follows:

Presently preferred classes of compounds of this invention include those where:

(1) R^1 is hydrogen or (C_1-C_6alkyl), especially methyl;

(2) R^2 and R^3 are hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, cyano, or halo (especially chloro), and more preferably one or both are chloro;

(3) R^4 is 

, especially where one or more of the following preferences applies: Ar is selected form the group consisting of phenyl, furyl, thienlyl, oxazolyl, thiazolyl, and pyrrolyl; R^5 is hydroxy, C_1-C_2alkoxy-methoxy or C_1-C_3-alkoxy; Q is a negatively charged species such as carboxy (or a prodrug thereof) or tetrazolyl; and L is –O-, -CH_2-O-, -O-CH_2-, or –CH_2-CH_2-O-;

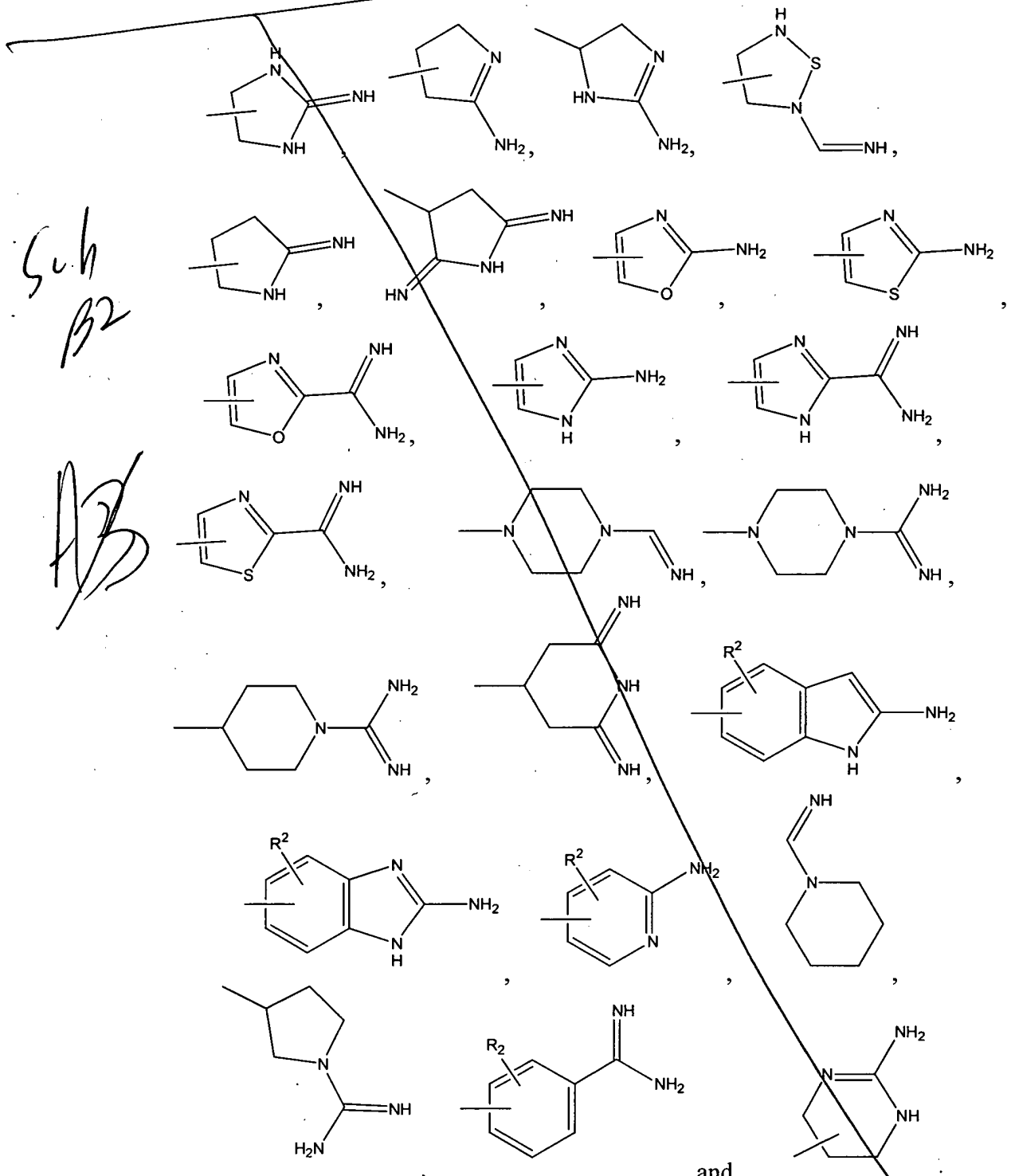
(4) B is –C(=O)- or –$S(=O)_2$-;

(5) J is –CH_2-, -CH_2-CH_2-, -NH-, -NH-CH_2-, -CH_2-NH-, -CH_2-NH-C(=O)-, -CH_2-NH-C(=O)-C_1-C_6alkyl- and –CH_2-NH-C(=O)-CH(C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl)-;

(6) B-J combinations are –C(=O)-CH_2-NH-C(=O)-CH(C_1-C_6alkyl)-, -C(=O)-CH_2-NH-C(=O)-CH(C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl)-, -C(=O)-NH-(C_2-C_6alkyl)-, -$S(=O)_2$-NH-(C_2-C_6alkyl)-, -C(=O)-NH-, -$S(=O)_2$-NH-, -C(=O)-CH_2- and –$S(=O)_2$-CH_2-;

(7) M is selected from the group consisting of R^9,

Replace the data on Page 10, lines 5-11, with the following data:



and ;